



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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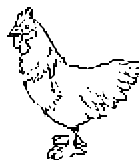
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was irregular, ranging weak in the West, mostly steady to about steady elsewhere. Retail demand was light to fair, best for scattered feature activity. Food service covered the full range with best movement into catering services preparing for holiday parties. Severe winter weather in parts of the East and South increased buying activity in some areas, but also created some delivery problems. Supplies were sufficient to at times closer balanced due in part to production cutbacks, while in the West, heavier weights were ample and often discounted. In the parts structure, trading was light and selective. Breast items were in good balance to available, and the remaining items were at least adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights light to heavy, mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 cents to 61.25 based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.50 cents last year on December 05, 2001.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	166.00
BREASTS - B/S	127.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	65.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	56.00
LEG QUARTERS	18.00
WINGS	47.00

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was mostly slow to fair, better where retail ads and fast food promotions were active. Supplies were usually sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were in the best balance to at times close with improved demand. Dark meat was readily available, and wings were at least adequate, both with limited interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained cautious and unaggressive as dealers maintained closely balanced floor stocks during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes were in good balance as plant closings kept product manageable. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was at least steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were in good balance. Boneless-skinless breasts were sufficient. Dark meat cuts were fully adequate. Wings were available.

MIDWEST Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offers limited for the light to occasionally fair buyer interest. Retail demand was light to fair with some increased interest noted on features. Food service movement was in a full range, mostly fair, best interest into catering operations. Floor stocks in close balance to ample. Some areas were experiencing delivery problems from southern states processors due to winter storm. Weights desirable. Trading on parts was selective and limited for the most part, best for leg quarters and boneless/skinless breasts. Parts supplies were sufficient for the limited trade interest. The market tone was steady on all parts.

WESTERN The market tone was weaker. Offerings were adequate to ample. Heavy weight product over 3.5 pounds in the longest position with discounts reported on excess product, however lighter weights were in fair balance and confidently held for current needs. Buying interest was light. Retailer demand was fairly good where featured otherwise only moderate. Floor stocks generally adequate. Breasts started to show some strength but trade sentiment was overall steady on parts.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 11/30/02	2002	2001
EGGS SET	200,843	211,929
CHICKS PLACED	161,040	165,267
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		-05
		-03

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 5 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 201 million eggs in incubators during the week ending November 30, 2002. This was down 5 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 161 million chicks for meat production during the week ending November 30, 2002. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week in 2001. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2001 through November 30, 2002 were 8.00 billion.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 11-Jan-03 IS ESTIMATED AT 145.5 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 139.1 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 144.2 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 119.7 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 56.85 CENTS PER POUND.

DECEMBER 03, 2002

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DECEMBER 04, 2002

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	940	109.00-187.00	115-119	124.34
TENDERLOINS	92	105.00-179.00	105-110	125.57
BREAST - LINE RUN	75	66.00-75.00	70-72	73.80
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	89	20.00-33.00	20-21	21.31
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	408	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.88
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,410	15.00-24.00	17-19	18.41
WINGS (WHOLE)	275	41.00-49.00	46-47	47.55
WINGS (CUT)	422	56.00-63.00	57-58	57.88
DRUMSTICKS	68	33.00-46.00	-	34.53
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	938	108.00-187.00	115-119	124.92
TENDERLOINS	96	105.00-179.00	105-110	124.71
BREAST - LINE RUN	75	66.00-75.00	-	73.80
FRONT HALVES	45	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	88	20.00-33.00	20-21	21.18
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	370	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.54
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,370	15.00-24.00	17-19	18.48
WINGS (WHOLE)	280	41.00-49.00	46-47	47.43
WINGS (CUT)	422	56.00-63.00	57-58	57.78
DRUMSTICKS	67	33.00-46.00	-	34.36
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
31.50 - 36.75	34.08	32.00 - 36.75	34.02	33.78

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity continued light and unaggressive during midweek trading as dealers remained cautious and selective. Offerings of bone-in breasts were in good balance. Boneless-skinless breasts were generally sufficient, but clearing well. Dark meat cuts were fully adequate. Wings remained available. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair, with best draw centering around the occasional promotion. The food service sector was seeing developing seasonal interest. The market tone remained fully steady to instances firm on bone-in breasts, at least steady on boneless-skinless breasts and about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT

QUANTITIES DECEMBER 03, 2002

DECEMBER 04, 2002

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	120	126.61	323,800
TENDERLOINS	100-105	102.53	240,731
BREAST - WITH RIBS	56-57	61.84	188,520
BREAST - LINE RUN	56	59.88	182,960
LEGS	31-32	28.65	152,960
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.12	402,439
DRUMSTICKS	21-22	23.16	164,600
THIGHS	20-21	25.27	56,350
B/S THIGHS	62-63	63.59	92,840
WINGS (WHOLE)	41-42	43.39	195,440
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.17	36,160
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.27	10,780
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.34	16,440

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	120	128.07	307,760
TENDERLOINS	100-105	99.16	64,760
BREAST - WITH RIBS	57-58	65.72	132,240
BREAST - LINE RUN	57	59.82	126,480
LEGS	31-32	28.44	224,000
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	17.80	431,887
DRUMSTICKS	21-22	29.15	38,400
THIGHS	20-21	30.92	35,600
B/S THIGHS	62-63	66.02	41,200
WINGS (WHOLE)	41-42	45.13	170,500
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.85	45,040
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	30.07	19,360
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	63.01	22,200

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	12/04	12/03	12/02	11/29	12/02
ALA	4,035	4,131	4,033	3,187	5.22
ARK	4,952	5,350	5,186	3,683	5.22
DELMARVA	2,059	2,231	2,313	1,497	5.20
KY-LA-TN	1,769	1,971	1,989	1,678	4.86
MISS	2,777	2,914	2,748	1,921	5.49
NC	2,528	2,370	2,390	2,659	6.25
TEXAS	2,461	2,461	2,433	2,631	5.05
TOTAL	20,581	21,428	21,092	16,769	5.32
MON-WED	63,367 (A)				5.14
					19,879
					5.18
					60,915 (A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 04-Dec 02 and is estimated to be 30,791,000 up 3.22 percent from a week ago and down 0.3 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 29,830,000; last year 30,894,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	89-91
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-89
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	69-75
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	ICE PACK	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		92-94
	DRY PACK	96-102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104
	DRY PACK	113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	92-98
	DRY PACK	-
DUCKS		152-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 07-Dec-02

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	12/07/02 (1)	11/30/02
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	159,604 (2)	118,248
LT HENS	1,856	1,334
HVY HENS	1,526	1,041
TOTAL	162,986	120,623

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 07-Dec-02 is 146.7 million head compared to 158.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 159.9 million head or 13.2 million more than estimated available. For week of 14-Dec-02 the estimated available is 146.7 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

PROCESSED TURKEY			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	LBS			LBS	
AM 12/02/02	112,050			77,481	
AM 11/01/02	216,327			71,124	
CHG	-104277			6357	
PCT CHG	-48%			9%	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/02/02	11/25/02	12/03/01	12/02/02	11/25/02	12/03/01
PACIFIC						
COAST	9,327	10,218	5,365	5,659	5,596	3,037
LOS						
ANGELES	94	94	169	3,894	3,974	1,688

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 02, 2002

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	60-62
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	62-79

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 12/03/02

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	1.10	.55	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.40	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.45	.70	.53	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	.75	2.50	-
BROILERS lb.	.35	.55	.47	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	.85	1.00	.93	PULLETS ea.	4.00	4.75	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	1.25	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.75	1.25	.99	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.75	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.45	1.30	1.03	DUCKS ea.	3.00	4.50	-
RABBITS lb.	1.30	1.60	1.41	RABBITS ea.	-	2.75	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.75	2.75	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	5.00	6.00	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	1.00	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-

TOTAL COOPS 95**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending November 29, 2002

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	53.72	125.34	71.62	13.43	17.91	47.00
High	58.19	134.29	80.57	22.38	22.38	47.00
Mostly	53.72	125.34	80.57	17.91	22.38	47.00

SAN JUAN

Low	61.77	125.34	85.05	22.38	12.98	53.72
High	62.67	134.29	94.00	31.33	14.77	53.72
Mostly	61.77	125.34	89.53	29.10	13.43	53.72

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	53.27	125.34	71.62	17.91	17.91	47.00
High	57.30	134.29	80.57	22.38	22.38	47.00
Mostly	53.72	125.34	76.10	17.91	17.91	47.00

BECERRA

Low	61.33	125.34	76.10	26.86	12.53	51.93
High	64.46	134.29	89.53	31.33	17.91	51.93
Mostly	61.77	129.81	80.57	29.10	13.43	51.93

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair. Seller offerings were adequate and in fairly good balance mainly due to production cutbacks. However, an increased call from some buyers was noted this morning in advance of hazardous weather forecasts in several areas. Live supplies were seasonally moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processor schedules were light. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 48 to 62 cents. Trade sentiment remained about steady. In the parts complex, breast cuts were adequate to closely cleared. Other items were at least adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	45-65
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	51.88
NO. OF BOXES	8,250

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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